

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-10 NIC-01

SAJ-01 CU-02 /084 W

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AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, WB, US, UK, FR, GW

SUBJECT: DIVISION OF IGS TRAFFIC BETWEEN TEGEL AND
TEMPELHOF

REFS: A) USBERLIN 254; B) BERLIN 1698

1. BERLIN TELEVISION NEWS EVENING OF FEBRUARY 10 AND
MORNING NEWSPAPERS OF FEBRUARY 11 CARRIED PAN AM STATEMENT
THAT AIRLINE HAD DECIDED TO MOVE TO TEGEL AFTER ALL.
STATEMENT NOTED THAT RECONSIDERATION OF REMAINING AT
TEMPELHOF, WHILE LOGICAL OUTCOME OF IGS ROUTE SWAP
AGREEMENT, WAS OPPOSED BY SENAT AND BRITISH AIRWAYS.
PRESS NOTED BERLIN AIRPORT COMPANY (BFG) DISCUSSING WITH
PAN AM AND BA MODALITIES OF TRANSFER TO TEGEL. ONE
AMUSING NOTE WAS ERRONEOUS TV REPORT THAT US COMMANDANT
HAD MET WITH GOVMAYOR FEBRUARY 10 TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER.
ACTUALLY, MINISTER MET WITH GOVMAYOR TO DISCUSS PARTICI-
PATION OF BERLIN OPERA IN U.S. BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES.

2. SENAT CHANCELLERY CHIEF HERZ, IN REGULARLY-SCHEDULED

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MEETING WITH LIAISON OFFICERS, EXPRESSED SENAT'S

SATISFACTION AT THIS OUTCOME. HERZ CONFIRMED THAT HAD US MISSION NOT GOTTEN WORD TO SENAT THAT PAN AM WAS CONSIDERING REMAINING AT TEMPELHOF IN ADVANCE OF PRESS REPORTS, PUBLIC REACTION OF SENAT WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY MORE NEGATIVE.

3. HERZ SAID AGAIN THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A MEETING WITH ALL PARTIES TO DISCUSS CIVIL AVIATION ON A "WHERE-DO-WE-GO-FROM-HERE" BASIS. US LIAISON OFFICER NOTED THAT WHILE WE HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT ALLIED MISSIONS PARTICIPATING IN SUCH A MEETING, WE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR SENAT AND AIRLINES TO GET TOGETHER. HERZ INDICATED THAT SENAT WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO THIS.

4. PAN AM INFORMED MISSION FEB 17 THAT BA/PAN AM DISCUSSIONS UNDERWAY WITH BFG AND SENAT WORKING LEVEL ON DEFINITIVE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR TEGEL FACILITIES, BUT PAN AM EXPECTS NEGOTIATING DELAYS, HANGAR CONSTRUCTION, AND PROCUREMENT LEAD TIME TO DELAY MOVE UNTIL JULY. PAN AM BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS APPROVED MOVE TO TEGEL, BUT WILL NOT AUTHORIZE PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR TEGEL OPERATION UNTIL COMPLETION OF LEASE AGREEMENT, WHICH PAN AM BERLIN MANAGER ESTIMATES TO BE 4-6 WEEKS AWAY DUE TO NEED TO REFER NUMEROUS LEGAL AND FINANCIAL POINTS TO NEW YORK. WITH PROCUREMENT DELAYED, SOME CRITICAL ITEMS (E.G., RADIOS) WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL JULY. BFG HAS BEEN PUSHING COMPLETION OF HANGAR SINCE PROBLEM EMERGED LAST SEPTEMBER (REF B), BUT BOTH AIRLINES NOW ESTIMATE FACILITY WILL NOT BE READY UNTIL JULY. PAN AM SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDING ANY PUBLICITY OF ITS ESTIMATE OF DELAY IN MOVE TO TEGEL IN ORDER TO AVOID ANOTHER CONFRONTATION WITH SENAT DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGN, BUT ISSUE LIKELY TO SURFACE SOON AFTER ELECTION.

5. COMMENT: THREE ALLIED MISSION SEE LITTLE TO BE GAINED BY ACCEPTING SENAT PROPOSAL FOR OPEN-ENDED DISCUSSION WITH BERLIN AIR MATTERS, BUT ARE PREPARED TO CONSULT WITH SENAT ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. WITH REGARD TO TEGEL MOVE, ALLIES PREFER TO LEAVE DISCUSSIONS OF MODALITIES TO AIRLINES, BFG, AND SENAT. GEORGE
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